Expansion of Rail Lines in Kerala

4768. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala's needs in the expansion of rail lines and introduction of various trains have not been met; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) For the development of Railway lines in Kerala, a number of new lines, doubling, gauge conversion projects have been taken up and are in progress. Keeping in view various demands, new passenger trains have been announced in the Budget 2002-2003 to serve needs of Kerala.

Security in Night Trains

4769. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce security for all the night trains, to check robberies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocation made for this purpose in the current Budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) This Ministry has no such proposal as maintenance of law and order on the railways including the running trains is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.